

GASOLINE EXPLOSION WRECKS CHARLES REAM'S GROCERY MEN HURLED IN AIR--M. O. SHROCK BADLY BURNED

The Air Was Full of Stones, Bricks,
Vegetables and Human-
ity.

Escaped Gasoline Fills
Cellar With Deadly
Explosive.

LOSS IS PLACED AT OVER \$7,000

Accident Causes Great Excite-
ment in Vicinity of Public
Square--Cause is a
Mystery.

Two men were injured and a loss of
about \$7,000 entailed by the explosion
of gasoline in the cellar of the grocery
of Charles W. Ream, 114 North Mar-
ket street, about 9:30 o'clock Thursday
morning.

INJURED.

M. O. SHROCK, 604 West South
street, a clerk at Ream's, badly burn-
ed about the face and hands; condi-
tion not serious; now at his home.

JACOB J. SHEETS, traveling sales-
man, 1339 Woodland avenue, was
walking along North Market street in
front of the store when the explosion
took place; hurled several feet into
the air, but received only slight
bruises.

Others slightly injured were Charles
W. Ream, cut about the face, and Fire-
man John Hook, hand cut by a nail.

A barrel of gasoline had just been
emptied into a metal tank underneath
the pavement in front of the store by

Fox Squirrels Escape.

IN A CAGE in the window of the
store were two red fox squirrels.
Throughout the accident these lit-
tle animals huddled in the corner
of their pen, having escaped injury.
Although the window glass was
blown far into the street by the
force of the explosion and the store
wrecked, these creatures were
saved.

It was not until the excitement
of the affair had abated that the
squirrels were seen crouched in a
dark corner of their home, un-
harmful, but badly frightened.

means of a rubber hose, when, with-
out warning, there was an explosion
which completely wrecked the store
and hurled the pavement high into the
air. Shrock was just leaving the cel-
lar by the outside stairway. The
flames enveloped him before he could
escape. He ran to the drug store of
L. Sollman, at Fifth and Market
streets, where he was taken care of
until the arrival of Dr. H. P. Pomer-
ene, when he was taken to his home
in Miller-Blanchard's ambulance.

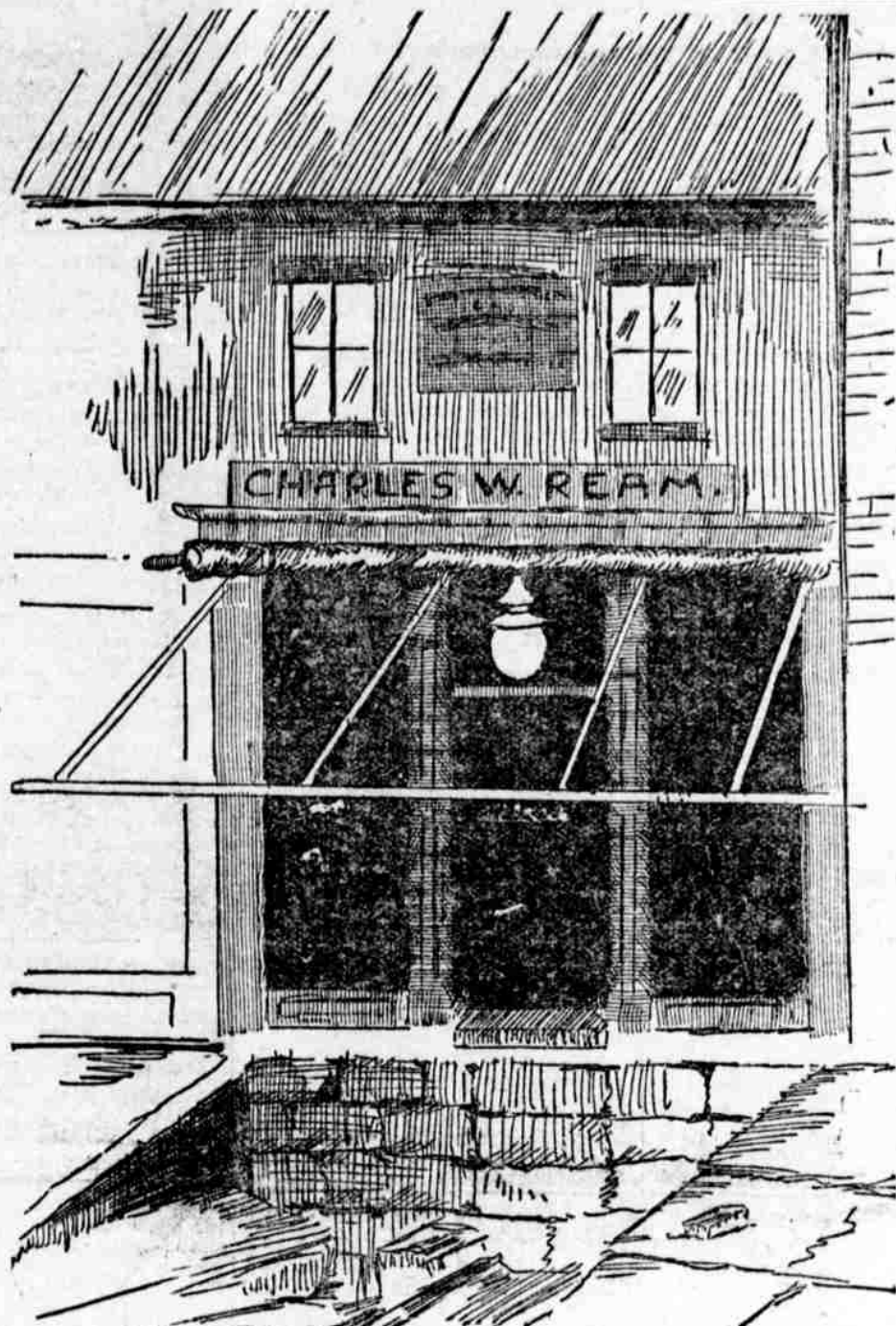
Sheets was walking just above the
coal vault in which the gasoline was
kept when it let go. Hurled into the
air, he dropped down into the huge
gap made in the sidewalk by the force
of the explosion, but climbed out be-
fore the flames reached him. In the
excitement he ran wildly about the
square for several moments. Sheets
escape from serious injury or death
was miraculous.

Just what caused the accident is not
known. According to the statements
of Ream and Shrock, made to the
News-Democrat, there were no lights
of any kind in the cellar or near the
tanks of gasoline. A match or lighted
cigar carelessly thrown through the
coal hole by a passing pedestrian may
have been responsible.

At the request of Fire Chief Mesnar
the board of public safety, on June 15
passed a resolution ordering Ream to
comply with the city ordinance regu-
lating the storage of gasoline and stat-
ing that if he did not, prosecution by
the city would follow. The ordinance
requires that one barrel, 52 gallons,
of gasoline may be kept at one time. In
the cellar where the explosion took
place, were two metal receptacles, one
of which had just been filled from a
barrel and contained the maximum 52
gallons, while the other, according to
Ream, was nearly empty.

The force of the explosion traveled
from the west to the east end of the
cellar, blowing out the east wall in one
place, and completely wrecking the
store. The floor caved in and coun-
ters, shelves with their burdens of
canned and bottled goods, with all
sorts of groceries, were thrown in a
heap. Little can be saved from the
ruins.

Buildings blocks away were shaken



Sketch Showing Front of the Grocery After the Explosion.

by the explosion, windows in the Dan-
nemiller block at Fifth and Market
streets, nearly a block away being
broken. A hole ten feet square was
made in the sidewalk on Market
street through which the flames and
smoke poured in huge volumes.

An alarm from box 35 summoned the
fire department which soon had
streams of water playing on the blaze.
The part of the cellar under the pav-
ement contained besides the gasoline
tanks many empty boxes and until
the flames were removed by dil-
igent work on the part of the firemen
and spectators it was impossible to
reach the source of the flames.

That more were not injured is sur-
prising. In the store at the time
were Ream and Charles Mathews, a
clerk. Both were in the rear and thus
escaped the full force of the explosion.
Ream, however, was cut about the face
by a falling shelf. Joseph Dick, the
manufacturer of 1413 West Tuscarora
street, had crossed the place where
the explosion occurred just a moment
before. He was badly shaken up as
was also John Link, of 1300 West
Elgin street, who was standing near-
by.

Shrock had just started to work for
Ream Tuesday morning. He formerly
lived in Canton and was in the gro-
cery business in the firm of Marshall &
Shrock, at Lake street and Cleveland
avenue. Lately he has resided in
Sharon, Pa. He was leaving the cel-
lar, after carrying down a crate of but-
ter dishes when caught by the explo-
sion.

The barrel from which the gasoline
was being emptied into the tank by
means of a rubber hose stood on the
sidewalk in front of the store. The
hose was run through a coal hole into
the tank and the barrel was nearly
emptied. By the opening of the tank
to receive the gasoline the fumes were
permitted to penetrate the other part
of the cellar and it is this which prob-
ably was the immediate cause of the
accident. In this process of siphon-
ing the fluid from the barrel to the
tank no help was needed and the bar-
rel was left unwatched. Shrock, how-
ever, had just left the place after talk-
ing with Officer Edward Bour. The
latter started across the square while
the clerk picked up a crate of butter
dishes and went down into the cellar.
Ream estimates his loss at \$5,000,
while loss on building, which is owned
by Mrs. Clara DeVille, Miss Rosa
Dannemiller and Anthony Francis,
will reach \$2,000. These losses are
covered by insurance. The offices of
James Walker, Frank Baird & Co., and
others on the second floor of the build-
ing were not badly damaged.

MISSIONARY ADDRESS.

Rev. P. H. Welshimer, of Canton,
delivered a missionary address at the
convention of the Christian church
held at Ada Wednesday. It was a
meeting of the churches of Hancock,
Hardin and Allen counties.

BLOODY WORK IS CONTINUED

Balkan Insurrection Is
Speeding Into Bul-
garia.

Scraps-McRae Telegram.

Vienna, Oct. 1.—The Balkan insur-
rection is fast spreading to Bulgaria.
The frontier town of Mezhona has been
put to the torch and the population
massacred. Hot fighting between the
insurgents and Turkish troops has oc-
curred during the past two days at the
neighboring village of Batcheno.

Private messages also assert that
Meinik has been destroyed.

A dispatch received this morning
quotes Zontcheff, the head of the inner
Macedonian organization, as declaring
that the insurgents regard the Turko-
Bulgarian negotiations as valueless.
Turkey is only temporizing, while
exterminating the Bulgarian popula-
tion in Macedonia.

FIFTY SEVEN

Persons Lose Their Lives as
Result of Ohio Railroads
During September.

Scraps-McRae Telegram.

Columbus, O., Oct. 1.—During Sep-
tember 57 persons were killed on the
railroads of Ohio, 22 being employees,
28 trespassers and 7 travelers on the
highway. No passengers were killed.

DODGING INJUNCTIONS.

Cirleville, O., Oct. 1.—The Scioto
Valley Traction company has com-
menced work on Court street to save
its franchise and forestall several
probable injunctions, laying about 200
feet of track. This road belongs to the
Applegate system. There has been a
great deal of opposition to the occu-
pation of Court street, the most im-
portant thoroughfare in the city.

DYNAMITE

Placed on Track Before a Fast
Northern Pacific Pass-
enger Train.

Scraps-McRae Telegram.

Butte, Mont., Oct. 1.—A can contain-
ing a gallon of nitro-glycerin was
found last night on the track of the
Northern Pacific railway, six miles
east of Butte at a high trestle. Per-
sons who, for some weeks, have made
repeated attempts in various parts of
the state to dynamite the Northern
Pacific railroad, are believed to have
placed it there. The explosive was
found by a watchman patrolling the
track ahead of the North Coast limited
train.

OBERLIN GETS DONATION.

Oberlin, O., Oct. 1.—Oberlin college
is jubilant today over the report of a
subscription gift of \$25,000. The an-
nouncement was first made by Presi-
dent King at chapel, and was received
with universal rejoicing. The name of
the donor is at present withheld and
as the purpose of the sum was un-
designated, the money will be added to
the Rockefeller endowment fund
which has now increased to \$150,000.

CHILD LOST.

Wilton Hine, aged three years, of 727
North Cherry street, was reported lost,
to the police Thursday morning.

GOODMAN HAS KEYS TO THE CITY HALL

Claims He Was Elected for Two Years and Re-
fuses to Surrender the Fort--Board
Will Change Locks.

An unlooked-for difficulty has been
encountered by Henry Homan, recent-
ly appointed janitor of the city hall,
by the board of public service. When
Homan went to take up the duties of
his position Thursday, Charles Good-
man, the present incumbent, refused to
deliver them, claiming that he was ap-
pointed for two years and that his
term does not expire until next Jan-

INDIANS' RIGHTS TO BE PROTECTED

Scandals in Oklahoma and In-
dian Territory are to
be Probed by Con-
gress.

Scraps-McRae Telegram.

Washington, D. C., Oct. 1.—Interior
department scandals in Oklahoma and
Indian territory will probably be
probed by congress soon after the next
session begins. Representative Stephens
of Texas, member of the house
committee on Indian affairs, believes
the investigation will be started by Re-
publicans for the purpose of heading
off the Democrats, who are anxious to
take the initiative.

"The government should first clear
its own skirts by removing unworthy
officials," said Mr. Stephens. "As for
the rights of the Indians, they will be
protected by the courts."

CANTON SOLDIERS LEAVE FOR SOUTH

Entire Regiment on Its Way to
Kentucky Camp.

Canton's militiamen started on the
trip for West Point, Ky., where they
will participate in the army maneu-
vers, late Wednesday afternoon. The
special train, which was made up at
Alliance, was composed of Pullman
cars, and one baggage car for each
company. The train, after leaving
Canton, gathered up the companies at
Shreve and Wooster and then pro-
ceeded by way of the Cleveland, Ak-
ron & Columbus road to the capital
city, where the entire Eighth will as-
semble. The special arrived safely at
Columbus early Thursday morning.

ON JUNKETING TRIP

School Officials are in Pitts-
burg Getting Pointers.

The offices of the high school are al-
most deserted today. An inspecting
party, composed of Superintendent
Sarver, Major Baird, Superintendent
of School Buildings Steiner, Dr. Har-
mount, secretary of the board of edu-
cation, and Member Reed of the school
board have gone on a trip to Pittsburg
to visit the manual training depart-
ments of the Pittsburg schools, with
the view of obtaining pointers which
will be valuable in the establishment of the
proposed industrial department in
Canton. They will probably present a
detailed report to the board of edu-
cation upon their return.

WOULDN'T GO

Unruly Militiaman Used Gun
When Comrades Tried to
Take Him to Camp.

Scraps-McRae Telegram.

Myersville, Ky., Oct. 1.—The local
company of state guard left for West
Point, Ky., this morning. Last night,
Tilden Daniels, private, stated he
would not go. William Yarnes and
Cash Ball were detailed to find Daniels
and when they attempted to take him,
Daniels shot Ball through the left arm,
which will be amputated. Daniels is
in jail charged with shooting with in-
tent to kill.

COOL--FENWICK.

Miss Theresa A. Cool, daughter of
Mr. and Mrs. Leonard T. Cool, will be
united in marriage to Albert C. Fen-
wick, chief clerk in the office of As-
sistant Superintendent Van Dusen of
the Wheeling & Lake Erie, at the home
of her parents, 1018 West Fourth
street, at 5:30 Thursday evening.

MILLER-RUSSELL WEDDING.

Chester Russell, an employee of the
Pole and Shaft Co., of Canton, and
Miss Flora A. Miller, formerly of Mag-
nolia, were married Wednesday even-
ing by Rev. P. H. Welshimer. They
will live at 1019 East Fifth street.

VAN WORMERS DIE IN CHAIR

Three Boys Pay the Pen-
alty of Murder.

THEY DID NOT FLINCH

Kept Nerve Until the Last and
Selected the Order of Their
Electrocution -- Cur-
rent's Swift Work.

Scraps-McRae Telegram.

Danemora, N. Y., Oct. 1.—The three
youthful Van Wormer boys were
electrocuted this morning for the murder
of their uncle, Peter Hallenbeck, at his
farm in Greensport, N. Y. The boys
went masked to Hallenbeck's home,
December 24 last. He tried to defend
himself but was shot to pieces.

The boys claimed the affair started
in fun and they only wanted to fright-
en their uncle and when he shot they
shot back. Then Frederick, aged 18,
Burton 22, and Willis 24, fled.

It came out at the trial that the
boys had ill feeling against Hallenbeck
because he foreclosed a mortgage on the
Van Wormer homestead and they
were finally found guilty of murder in
the first degree.

They slept badly last night, but Bur-
ton said he was no more afraid of the
electric chair than of eating his supper.

Willis went to the chair first, Fred-
erick, the youngest, second, and Bur-
ton last. The boys made the arrange-
ments themselves, owing to the bad
health of Willis, who has lung trouble.
The boys read their Bible last night
and took their first and last commun-
ion of the Roman Catholic faith this
morning. At 11:29 the witnesses of
the electrocution started for the death
chamber.

At 11:32, after the usual test of the
chair with a bank of electric lamps,
the first man, Willis Van Wormer,
was summoned. He entered the death
chamber and at 11:35 the current was
turned into his body. Just two min-
utes later he was pronounced dead.
Frederick came in immediately after,
and at 11:42½, was pronounced dead,
just a minute and a half after the cur-
rent was applied. Burton followed,
dying at 11:48½, one half minute af-
ter the switch had been turned on.

Although the boys retained their
nerve, they did display some weakness
on the final parting with the death
watch, who had been their most inti-
mate associate during their confine-
ment. When it came to the final part-
ing Fred broke down completely and
wept. His distress was clearly in
parting rather than in the thought of
his death.

There was not a hitch in the execu-
tions and the boys went to the chair
crucifix in hand and apparently with-
out tremor. Frederick even looked on
with interest while the straps were be-
ing adjusted which would send him to
his death. It was said to be the most
successful electrocution ever held in
the state.

SEVENTY EIGHT

Hours Between Chicago and
New York by Automobile
--New Record Es-
tablished.

Scraps-McRae Telegram.

New York, Oct. 1.—The Chicago-New
York automobile run was completed
shortly after 9 o'clock this morning,
when Harry Sandol and Bert Holcomb
arrived at the offices of the Columbia
Automobile Co. The distance had
been covered in 78 hours, many days
ahead of the previous record.

WANTS 300 MORE MEN.

(Staff Special.)

Alliance, Oct. 1.—The Alliance
branch of the American Steel Casting
Co., report an increase of 15 per cent
in its business this month. The com-
pany wants 300 more men to work in
its shops.

AKRON COUPLE WEDDED.

Nelson H. Clarke and Fredrick Ju-
den were married Wednesday after-
noon at the parsonage of the First
Methodist church. Rev. O. W. Holmes
performed the ceremony. Both the
groom and bride reside in Akron.

GLEESON-BRITSCH.

Miss Charlotte Virginia Gleeson,
of Uniontown, and George Arthur
Britsch, of Brooklyn, O., were married
by Justice Reigner Wednesday after-
noon. They will reside in Brooklyn.